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USIB-D-46.4/24  
(COMIREX-D-15.2/12)  
29 October 1968  
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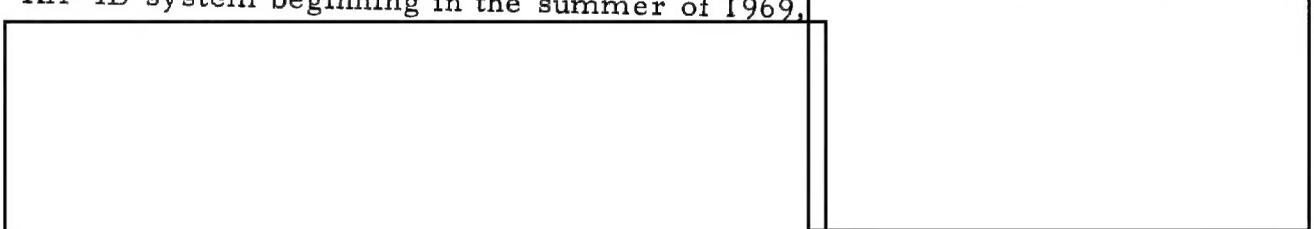
UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

MEMORANDUM FOR THE UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

SUBJECT : World-Wide Positioning Requirements  
REFERENCE : USIB-D-41.14/295 (COMOR-D-13/65), 11 July 1966

1. The attached memorandum from the Chairman, Committee on Imagery Requirements and Exploitation (COMIREX) submits for USIB consideration recommendations on the subject designed to meet these requirements as defined by the Mapping, Charting and Geodesy (MC&G) community based upon proposals furnished by the National Reconnaissance Office (NRO).
2. As background the attached memorandum gives the COMIREX evaluation of NRO proposals designed to meet the DoD world-wide positioning requirements as stated in the reference of 450 feet horizontal and 300 feet vertical 90 percent assurance relative to the World Geodetic System in support of long range missiles, with particular reference to accuracy in the Sino-Soviet area. The NRO proposals involve adding a Doppler beacon to the KH-4B system beginning in the summer of 1969.

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USIB ACTION REQUESTED

3. Board Members are requested to advise the Secretariat not later than close of business 4 November of their concurrence or other views on the COMIREX recommendations in paragraph 6 of the attachment.

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Attachment

NRO review(s) completed.

Executive Secretary

GROUP 1  
Excluded from automatic  
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MEMORANDUM FOR: The United States Intelligence Board

SUBJECT: World-wide Positioning Requirements

REFERENCE: USIB-D-41.14/295 (COMOR-D-13/65), 11 July 1966

Background

1. Referenced USIB document stated the DoD world-wide positioning requirements as 450 feet horizontal and 300 feet vertical 90 percent assurance relative to the World Geodetic System in support of long range missiles, but indicated that this requirement would probably be met by existing overt and covert systems and data. The MC&G community later stated in July 1967 that the requirement could not be met because existing systems could provide only a 750 feet horizontal accuracy in the Sino-Soviet area. Accordingly, the COMIREX asked the NRO for proposals to meet the requirement as defined by the MC&G community. NRO proposals furnished in August 1968 have now been evaluated.

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2. COMIREX has been informed that a Doppler beacon could be added to the KH-4B system beginning in the summer of 1969

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3. Long range missiles requiring the positioning accuracy stated in paragraph 1 above to be compatible with other characteristics will be operational in June 1970, but data on which to base the geodetic calculations should be available 6 to 12 months in advance. At the present time about one third of the DoD's Priority One missile targets meet this positioning requirement, but over 800 have a horizontal accuracy averaging 750 feet and ranging from 450-1000 feet 90 percent assurance. About 85 percent of these targets are missile silos. We are informed that efficiency and flexibility in planning the use of our special weapon strike force cannot be achieved unless immediate steps are taken to bring target positioning in line with the improved Minuteman capability.

4. Immediate action to place the Doppler on the KH-4B will provide for meeting the current requirement of the missile force for the more important targets in June 1970, which would be about two years earlier.

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Impact on Intelligence

5. According to the NRO, placing the Doppler beacon on the KH-4B will not materially change the mission parameters optimized for

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intelligence requirements, but increased power and weight requirements may cause a slight reduction of time on orbit for one mission. After the solar panels are available for power supply in March 1970, there will be no reduction in time on orbit. On balance it is expected that increased accuracy can be realized from geodetic positioning by the KH-4B system without significant impact on meeting intelligence requirements.

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Recommendation

6. In view of the benefits to be gained and the relatively low cost involved, it is recommended that:

- a. The NRO take immediate action to add the Doppler beacon to five KH-4B systems beginning in the summer of 1969.

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Chairman

Committee on Imagery Requirements and Exploitation